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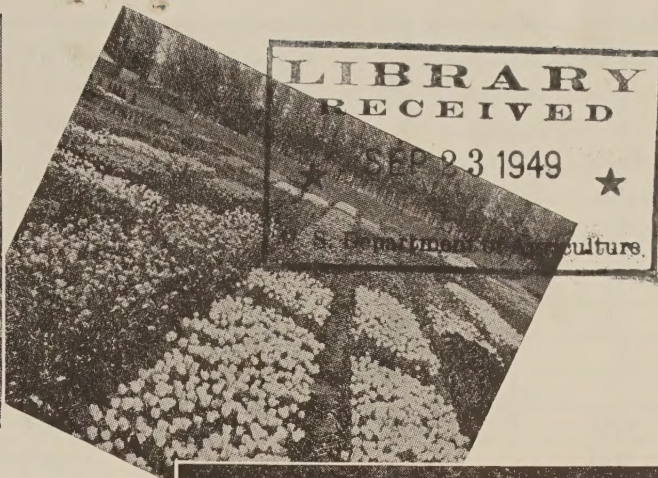




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*Tulip Time Scenes at  
Nelis Tulip Farms*



**NELIS NURSERIES, Inc.**  
HOLLAND, MICHIGAN



*Which are the Tulips and Daffs for You?*

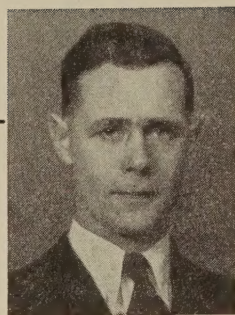
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# Dear Reader:



**This folder brings you a New Tulip and Daffodil Selection Service based on a Personality Chart. Please read my letter of explanation.**

It is not generally known, but a great change has come over Tulips and Daffodils, especially the latter. Two things happened during the war which at one and the same time both deteriorated the bulb picture, and tremendously improved it.

On the one hand, commercial bulb growers had no alternative during the war years except to let the old pre-war Tulip and Daffodil stock run its course and wear itself out. The cheap bargain offers which feature a lot of bulbs for a little price are largely the remnants of this played-out, uninteresting and, in our opinion, worthless stock.

Now on the other hand, the Netherlands hybridizers were doing their greatest work during the war years, developing new strains and varieties of Tulips and Daffodils in great profusion. Naturally, many of these new hybrids were merely signposts leading the way to further refinements, - experiments that served their purpose in ultimately producing the most gloriously outstanding Tulips and Daffodils ever to walk upon the stage. These, of course, are all post-war fresh stock of wonderful new vitality.

This is a most refreshing situation, - and we have made the most of it by filling the 1949-50 Nelis Catalog with truly exceptional Tulips and Daffodils - definitely the pace-setters which put an altogether new zest into the planting of these bulbs. In fact, so many of these wonderful presentations have such dominant characteristics that it is hard to know where to draw the line.

If you were to study these highly cultured specimens as we have done, you would be impressed by their pronounced personalities. You would start to pick and choose according to how these personalities appealed to you. So what better service could we be to you than to classify these Tulips and Daffodils by their personalities? This we have done - and now you can enjoy the fascinating pleasure of letting the Nelis Personality Chart lead you directly to the Tulips and Daffodils that were created "just for you."

Many of these Tulips and Daffs with dominant characteristics are exclusive Nelis introductions, and while we might single them out for dramatic promotion as exceptional specimens, that would be unfair to the many other fine Tulips and Daffodils presented by the 1949-50 Nelis Catalog - copy of which you should have. It is a Nelis rule to list only the varieties that are definitely superior, that being the standard expected of us by Nelis customers.

And speaking of Nelis customers - others are welcome to have their horde of gullible buyers who rise to the bait of waste bulbs at a cheap price - but we'll stick to the quality trade. There's infinitely more satisfaction in planting a single Nelis bulb and have it produce a masterpiece of perfection than to sow a hundred cast-offs and get only a puny showing, if any at all. We count our customers' gratification as far too precious to allow us to deal in anything but excellent stock.

Your order will be much appreciated - and may we suggest that now is the nicest time to send it in - now when full selections are still available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Larry Nelis".

**NELIS NURSERIES, INCORPORATED**  
HOLLAND, MICHIGAN





NELIS

*Personality*

TULIPS and  
DAFFODILS

HOW TO USE THIS SELECTOR CHART

A new pleasure enters into your planting of Tulips and Daffodils through the selection of those which have a definite "personality." You can achieve striking effects by having certain of your Tulips and Daffs show a pronounced individuality of unusual distinction—so forget all about the stereotyped ways of selecting your choice specimens and have fun choosing the varieties on the basis of their personalities. This chart will unerringly select the best of the finer Tulips and Daffodils that have just the features you want.

For example, suppose you want some impressively tall Tulips that stand out head and shoulders above all the rest. Very well, you look down the column headed "Tall and Stately" and you note all the Tulips that have a T in this column. But you want them to stand out even more; you want them to be gay blades of sporty character. So you scan down the "Gay and Showy" column to find the T's that designate this trait. Right away your list is thinned down from 25 tall - and - statelies to only 2 that also qualify as gay-and-showy. But you draw the personality even finer; you want the color to be unusual, something altogether new—so you see what's under the "New Color" head. Sure enough, there's YOUR Tulip! — Don Jose — dark red, bred for a fiery Carmen! A new color; a sporty Tulip; exceptionally tall and impressive — with an extra large bloom as a bonus! Before you scanned the Personality Chart, Don Jose was just a name; now it's a definite, intriguing personality.

You work it the same way with the Daffodils. Suppose the main characteristic you want is a sweetly perfumed scent—in itself a rare distinction. You look down the "Sweet Scented" column and note the many which are indicated with a D. You jump over to the "Rare and Very New" column and note that most of your sweet scented Daffs are the newest of innovations—which pleases you. But this very new, sweet scented Daffodil of yours must have absolute perfection, leaving nothing to be desired in excellence of shape, size, form and color—a gem to rave over! So you check the "Bred to Perfection" column—and find that 9 of your starting 24 Daffodils qualify—nine that are sweet scented, rare, superb beauties. You may want to order some of each, or narrow it down still further to the 6 that have the "Extra Large Bloom." But, however your choice runs, whatever your personality inclinations, the chart leads you to exactly the right varieties. Fun, isn't it?

These are, of course, the outstanding Tulips and Daffodils selected from the complete Nelis Catalog—where full descriptions are given—and where a great many other excellent varieties are presented for your consideration. In making your Fall plans for your garden, use this Personality Chart to highlight your plantings with distinction and charm. Use the convenient order form.

Let Your CHOICE Express Your INDIVIDUALISM

• • • • •

• MOST POPULAR OF TULIP COLLECTIONS •

• **DUTCH RAINBOW MIXTURE** •

• FOR YOU WHO LIKE LOTS OF COLOR IN •  
• A MASS OF RAINBOW HUES •

Over the years, the popularity of the now famous Nelis Tulip Rainbow Collection has steadily mounted, leading us to give an assortment of extraordinary value. It really is a super de luxe mixture, made up specially to make people rave over the brilliant color combinations with a range that includes every hue, shade and blending. This rainbow mixture offers one of the most interesting ways to plant tulips to gain a spectacular mass effect, with color running rampant.

**BLOOMING SIZE**

Quality being paramount in the Nelis Tulip Rainbow Collection, we do not permit any small bulblets to get into the mixture. However, in the interest of thrift we do offer a blooming-size mixture, with the bulbs averaging from 1 to 1 1/4 inches in diameter. This is not as small as you dare to go for exquisite first-year blooms, but it is the safest minimum to plant for assured results.

50 for	-----	\$ 3.25
100 for	-----	\$ 5.90
250 for	-----	\$14.25
1000 for	-----	\$55.00

• **Every Type of Tulip**  
• **Included**

• We have gone all out on this Nelis Rainbow Collection to make it the finest, most outstanding mixture of exquisite tulips, deliberately avoiding the cheap or commonplace. It is all-inclusive, going the whole range of colors in Darwin, Breeder, Cottage and Lily-flowered Tulips—an ideal grouping for your gayest beds, as well as perfect for cutting purposes.

**LARGE SIZE**

Averaging from 1 1/4 to 1 1/2 inches in diameter, these bulbs are excellent planting stock—exactly the same as we use in our own famous Nelis Tulip Farms where thousands annually admire the gorgeous size of the fully developed blooms.

50 for	-----	\$ 4.85
100 for	-----	\$ 9.00
250 for	-----	\$22.00
1000 for	-----	\$85.00

**Sent to You Postpaid**

• • • • •



# Nelis PERSONALITY SELECTOR CHART---for Tulips and Daffodils of Stand-out Character

TULIPS---T			Tall and Stately Over 28"	Short and Stocky Under 14"	Sweet Scented	Pre-Season Bloomer	Bred to Superb Perfection	Multi-Flowered 3-6 Flowers	Extra Large Bloom	New Color	Gay and Showy	Rare Very New	Double	Lily-Flowered	DAFFODILS---D		
LISTED BY NAME WITH PERSONALITY FEATURES INDICATED BY LETTER T															LISTED BY NAME WITH PERSONALITY FEATURES INDICATED BY LETTER D		
PRICE	Per 3	Per Doz.													PRICE	Per 3	Per Doz.
RED															TRUMPET		
Advance, Medium	\$ .40	\$1.35	T				D		T			D			Beersheba, White	\$1.45	\$4.75
Captain Fryatt, Wine	.85	2.75							D	T	T			T	Imperator, Blush White	.80	2.65
Charles Needham, Vivid	.50	1.70	T						D						Golden Harvest, Yellow	.80	2.65
Dardanelle, Bright	Now! \$1.50 EACH		T				T		T			T			King Alfred, Golden	.60	2.00
Don Jose, Dark	1.00	3.25	T				D		T	D	T		D	T	General MacArthur, Yellow	1.20	4.00
G. W. Leak, Pleasing	.55	1.80	T				D		D						Rembrandt, Yellow	.70	2.30
Linifolia, Vivid	.75	2.50		T								T	D		Robin Hood, Deep Yellow	.65	2.15
Marshall Haig, Deep	.60	1.95	T				T		T	D					Lord Wellington, Yellow	.85	2.80
Miss Kay, Dark (Parrot)	.65	2.20	T						T		T				INCOMPARABILIS		
Mrs. Ethel Telling, Amer. Beauty	.70	2.25	T				D		T	D		D			Bridesmaid, White to apricot	.90	3.00
Nardi, Amer. Beauty	.65	2.20					T			D	T	D	T		Dick Wellband, White to orange	.75	2.50
Praestans Fusilier, Vivid	.65	2.20		T		D	T	D	T				D		Flora Tristan, Yellow to orange	1.80	6.00
Rocket, Pleasing	.75	2.50			D				T	D			T		John Evelyn, White to yellow	.55	1.75
ORANGE							D		D			D	D		Greta Garbo, Yellow to orange	1.50	----
Grenadier, Vivid	.50	1.55			D			D			T		D		La Riente, White to scarlet	.75	2.50
Orange Favorite, Bright (Parrot)	.60	2.00			T		D		T			T	D		Monique, Cream to orange	.70	2.30
Orange King, Bright	.40	1.35		D	T	D			D						Orange Blossom, Yellow-orange	.70	2.25
Orange Glow, Soft	.50	1.70	T						T	T			D		Mozart, Cream to scarlet	.70	2.25
Stanislaus, Clear	.85	2.75				T	D		D		T		D	T	Richard Wagner, White to yellow	.90	3.00
ROSE AND PINK				D		D		D					D		Scarlet Beauty, Yellow to red	.75	2.50
Aristocrat, Bright	.60	2.00	T				T	D		T	D	D	D		Selma Lagerlof, White to salmon	1.50	5.00
Annie Laurie, Soft	.55	1.75			D			D		T		D	D		Smiling Queen, White to orange	1.80	----
Caroline Testout, Light	.65	2.15	T		D		D								Tilley Durieux, White to red	.70	2.25
Double Prunus, Pleasing	.75	2.50					T			T		T	T		BARRI		
Fantasy, Salmon (Parrot)	.65	2.15					D		T		T		D		Benoy, Lovejoy, Cream to orange	.70	2.25
Kathleen Parlow, Medium	.55	1.75	T						T			D	D		Fireglow, Yellow to scarlet	.70	2.25
Marie Nicholson, Vivid	.65	2.15	T	D			T		T	D		T			Fortune, Yellow	.65	2.15
Mons. Mottet, White to Pink	.75	2.50	T					T		D		D	T		Francisca Drake, White and red	.65	2.15
Rose Beauty, Pleasing	.45	1.50			D	D			D		T	D	D		Franz Liszt, White and yellow	1.00	3.25
YELLOW				D								D	D		Kentucky, Yellow to red	.65	2.15
Belle Jaune, Golden	.45	1.60	T						T	D			D		New Amsterdam, White-orange	.90	3.00
Daisystemon, Greenish-yellow	.65	2.15		T		D	T	D	T			D	D		Montgomery, Yellow to red	.60	2.00
Mrs. J. T. Scheepers, Light	.50	1.55	T				T		T						LEEDSI		
Mrs. Moon, Golden	.55	1.75			T	D		D		D			D	T	Daisy Schaeffer, White to yellow	.70	2.25
Niphetos, Straw	.50	1.55								D	D	D			Mrs. R. O. Backhouse, White, pink	1.80	6.00
LAVENDER AND PURPLE					D		D		D		D	D			Tunis, Cream and apricot	.70	2.35
Black Eagle, Dark	.50	1.75	T						T						POETICUS		
Blue Flag, Deep	.75	2.25			D		D		T	D		T	T		Actea, White to red	.35	1.15
Blue Parrot, Medium	.50	1.55			D		D		T	D		T			The Prince, White to red	.60	2.00
Demeter, Dark	.60	2.00	T						T						POETAZ		
Gadelan, Deep (Parrot)	1.35	4.50			D		T		D	T			D	D	Cheerfulness, White	.55	1.75
George Grappe, Light	.60	1.95	T		D				D	T			D	D	Cheerfulness Yellow, Yellow	1.80	----
Mme. Butterfly, Shaded	.50	1.70	T		D		D	D	D	T	D		D		Geranium, White to red	.55	1.80
WHITE					D			D							Glorious, White to orange	.70	2.25
Blanca, Clear	.65	2.20	T						T						DOUBLE		
Blizzard, Pure	1.60	5.60					T	D	T	D		T		D	Inglescombe, Yellow	.60	2.00
Carrara, Clear	.45	1.60			D		D		T	D		D	D	D	Insulinde, Yellow to red	.85	2.75
Mt. Tacoma, With green	.75	2.50			D		D		T	D		D	T	T	Mary Copeland, White to red	.75	2.50
White Cross, With green	.60	2.00					T		T		T	T	D	D	Texas, Yellow to red	.70	2.30
BLACK					D				D				D		Twink, Straw yellow to red	.60	2.00
La Tulipe Noire, Black	.50	1.70	T												JONQUILS		
Black Girl, Jet	.60	2.05			D							T		D	Camperelli, Double yellow	.40	1.35
BLENDS					D										Golden Scepter, Golden yellow	.55	1.75
Cherbourg, Yellow to Brown	.65	2.15	T		D			D	T	D					Luna, Lemon-yellow	.60	2.00
Cornuta Stenopetala, Yellow-red	.80	2.65										T			BOTANICAL		
Golden Bronze, Bronze	.70	2.25	T		D			T	D			T			Canaliculatus, White-yellow	Per 6: 1.10	2.00
Formosa, Green and Yellow	.60	1.95			D				D	T		T			W. P. Milner, Straw	Per 6: 1.25	2.25
Jessy, Purple and Gold	.60	2.00	T		D	D			D	T			D		Nuncifolia, Golden yellow	Per 6: 2.00	3.75
Souvenir, Yellow and Red	.60	2.10					D	D	T	D	T	D			Thalia, White	Per 3: .70	2.25



SURPRISE *Daffodil* COLLECTION

*You'll be Thrilled by what You See Next Spring*

There's a big surprise in store for you with this bagful of beauteous daffy-down-dillies — a treat that will unfold for you a galaxy of glamorous, supreme daffodils. Because we do want you to be enraptured by what you see next Spring, we have dipped into the finest of our daffodil selections, both of our own and from hybridizers abroad, and have made a grand mixture of surpassing individuality and gorgeousness. If it all sounds too irresistible to pass up — just go ahead and order this Surprise Collection with our guarantee that you'll say we haven't even said enough in its favor.

ORDER NOW  
AT THESE LOW  
PRICES

25 for -----\$3.50 POSTPAID  
50 for -----\$6.50 POSTPAID  
100 for \$9.85 SENT EXPRESS COLLECT  
250 for 23.25 SENT EXPRESS COLLECT  
1000 for 85.00 SENT EXPRESS COLLECT

### *Ready Mixed Daffodils for Naturalizing*

These are special daffodil bulbs selected for naturalizing purposes, and you will find they do well in practically any soil—in the open or among trees and woodland. Mixture is made up of large Trumpet, Leeds, Barri and Poeticus types, combining a collection worth much more than is charged for them. Plant at least 8 inches deep, avoiding places where water may collect, as they like drainage. Order now; the demand for this exceptional Nelis value is always greater than the supply.

**You can really do it  
in a big way at these  
special prices.**

50 for -----	\$ 3.25
100 for -----	\$ 6.00
250 for -----	\$14.25
1000 for -----	\$55.00

THIS ORDER FORM FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE.  
TEAR OUT ALONG PERFORATIONS AND SEND  
IT—NOW—TO:

**Mr. Harry Nelis,  
Nelis Nurseries, Inc.  
Holland, Michigan**

Date\_\_\_\_\_

Quantity	I T E M	Price

Check or Money Order Enclosed in Amount of \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_







SELECT YOUR FINEST TULIPS AND DAFFODILS WITH A PURPOSE... LET THE PERSONALITY FEATURES LEAD YOU TO THE EXCEPTIONAL VARIETIES THAT ARE THE RIGHT ONES FOR YOU

*This is off the side . . . but here's some good Hyacinth news*

We have just harvested a wonderful crop of Hyacinth bulbs, which will produce immense flower trusses of these colorful and spicy-fragrant flowers. Perfect for beds or borders. Available in two sizes as follows:

#### SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

3 each of 8 colors (24 bulbs), labeled...\$ 6.90  
6 each of 8 colors (48 bulbs), labeled...\$13.50

#### EXHIBITION SIZE

Your selection of color:

Red	Pink	Light Blue	Dark Blue
White	Rose	Medium Blue	Yellow

\$3.25 per dozen

\$24.00 per 100

#### BEDDING SIZE

Mixed Hyacinths, all colors, slightly smaller in size than Exhibition Size as listed above.

\$2.25 per dozen

\$16.00 per 100

## *Drawing your Attention to New Items in Miniature Bulbs*

### IXIOLIRION PALLASI

Lovely flowers of deep blue or violet, popularly called Siberian Bluebell. Flowers are borne in the spring and the bulbs are hardy. (Cannot ship before October 1st). Illustrated in our 1949 Catalog.

\$1.30 per dozen

\$10.00 per 100

### NEW GIANT WHITE GRAPE HYACINTHS; AZUREUM ALBUM

Similar in size to the Heavenly Blue Grape Hyacinths, or twice the size of the older white variety.

\$0.95 per dozen

\$7.50 per 100

### LEUCOJUM VERNUM (Giant Snowdrops)

Early and most attractive spring flower producing white, tipped with green, flowers on 16 to 18" stems. Blooms with Daffodils and Tulips. Splendid for floral arrangements, these flowers provide permanent planting which improves with age.

\$1.40 per dozen

\$10.00 per 100

*Look to your 1949 Nelis Catalog for Complete Descriptions if you want further details of offerings herein featured. Send your order NOW!*



# *There's Always this kind of Sunshine when the Goal is to make Customers Happy*

A bulb that disappoints is an extravagance, no matter how cheaply it was obtained. There is only one object in taking the time and effort to plant Tulips and Daffodils—and that is to have the bulbs produce a thing of beauty, a joy to the beholder. Therefore, we measure our success in terms of the beauty and the joy our bulbs bring to our customers—and it is the most gratifying part of our business to receive the many customer letters that show us how right we are in making quality the foundation of our business. These letters—a few from our files—show what we mean.

MAY 18, 1949—RIVER GROVE, ILL.

" . . . Believe me, I have the most beautiful Tulips that I ever dreamed to have. Many thanks." *Mr. Ralph Kreutz.*

MAY 19, 1949—NEW LONDON, WIS.

" . . . My people have grown Tulips the past sixty years, but never have we had better, bigger, or more beautiful flowers than from the bulbs you sent. . . " *Hermina Schultz.*

MAY 10, 1949—CUYAHOGA FALLS, O.

" . . . Have been the talk of the neighborhood since planting your Tulip and Daffodil bulbs last fall. Never saw such sizes and beautiful colors. Will place an order for more this year." *J. W. Orr.*

MAY 31, 1949—WINFIELD, KANSAS

" . . . When the Daffodils bloomed this year that I got from you they were just grand. I never saw such large blooms. General MacArthur and Bridesmaid were just beautiful. . . " *Mrs. E. W. Burns.*

MARCH 14, 1949—EL DORADO, ARK.

" . . . Last fall I planted some bulbs ordered from you and later destroyed my copy of your catalog. These were so large and lovely that some of my friends who are expert gardeners are green with envy. Will you please send me two copies of your catalog so that I may have a little rest from so many questions. . . " *Miss Tempie Lee Carson.*

MAY 4, 1949—BUTLER, PENNA

" . . . I must take time to tell you how beautiful the Daffodils I bought from you last fall are. They are without exception the most beautiful I have ever bought and am planning to get another 1,000 this fall. Thank you for the pleasure you have given us." *Gertrude F. Campbell.*

JULY 17, 1949—PEORIA HGTS., ILL.

" . . . My tulips I ordered from you last year were beautiful—much prettier than the pictures in your catalog. Thank you for sending such nice bulbs." *Mrs. Bernice Phillips.*

APRIL 8, 1949—OKLA. CITY, OKLA.

" . . . I am writing because I want to share my happiness with you—you see the bulbs came from your Nursery two years ago. I have never seen anything like them and no one else in our neighborhood has either. From my and my neighbors' garden experience of the past, we always admired the pictures in the catalog and know within reason that things just never grew that lovely actually. Well, my bulbs have passed your catalog pictures. The Daffodils are all the most beautiful Daffodils I have ever dreamed of. . . I can't keep my mind on my work because of the picture of the Tulip Springtime, that lurks in my mind. I have to go to the door every little while and see if it's still there. . . This is the first time in all my life that I have had flowers that—yes—even surpass the pictures in the catalogs. Thanks to you for the wonderful bulbs." *Mrs. Geo. Eisenmann.*

JULY 2, 1949—DETROIT, MICHIGAN

" . . . Believe me when I say I was never more pleased as I was from my garden—it was just beautiful. . . I hope you will keep sending me your catalog as I am always looking for any new varieties which I know you can offer." *Miss Evelyn Franklin.*

MAY 4, 1949—WILLIAMS, ARIZ.

" . . . I am so pleased with all the bulbs I purchased from you last year. It was my first experience with bulbs and I don't think I lost any, and our winter was as cold as 25 below zero." *Mrs. H. E. Crain.*

JUNE 14, 1949—PORTLAND, ORE.

" . . . I am enclosing my fall order. Let me say how much I have enjoyed your bulbs and I compliment you on your reasonable prices." *Mrs. D. O. de Groff.*

MAY 24, 1949—NINEVEH, IND.

" . . . Am ordering more Daffodils for naturalizing. Those I obtained last year from you surpassed my highest expectations. I never order bulbs any more except from you for I feel they are always the best." *Marie Redwood.*

JULY 14, 1949—WAUWATOSA, WIS.

" . . . The Daffodils I received from you last year far surpassed the imported Holland bulbs my husband ordered through a local dealer. Every flower was colossal. . . I was truly pleased and grateful." *Mrs. Louise K. Austin.*

PLEASE NOTE: (1) *These fine compliments are but a few from the many hundreds in our files*—(2) *They are from all parts of the country*—(3) *Those quoted all bear this year's postmark (1949)—and it's been the same for over twenty years.*



